

15 July 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, USIB

SUBJECT : Secretariat Summary of USIB Agenda for 17 July

Item 1 Minutes and Associated Paper

Drafts have been circulated by the Exec Sec for USIB approval; Sponsor-

Item 2 Watch ReportDraft by the Watch Committee to be circulated for USIB approval;
Sponsor -Item 3 NIE on The Outlook in South Korea(BNE draft coordinated with USIB Representatives for USIB approval;
Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith)

This estimate was requested by the NSC Staff. Two important disagreements arose during its coordination, and BNE expects these dissenting views to be expressed at the USIB meeting.

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Item 4 SNIE on Capabilities of the Vietnamese Communists for Fighting in South Vietnam

BNE draft coordinated with USIB Representatives for USIB approval;
Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith

DIA requested this estimate at the suggestion of General McChristian who believed the previous 1967 SNIE had been overtaken by time and events.

BNE advises that coordination of this estimate went relatively smoothly and quickly. There are seven reservations, most marginal to the central issues, with a good chance that several (Navy on para. 52, p. 38, and para. 56, p. 42; and State on para. 53, p. 39) may be dropped. BNE also states there is a good chance that USIB Principals may reopen discussion on points not footnoted, possibly including:

a. Communist strength figures, because DIA is worried that MACV's figures are lower than agreed DIA/CIA estimates.

b. Cambodia, because DIA may wish to strengthen the judgment in the last sentence, para. 53, p. 39.

Item 5 SNIE on Current Soviet Attitudes Toward the US

BNE draft coordinated with USIB Representatives for USIB approval;
Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith

This special estimate was requested by General Carroll on behalf of CINCPAC. General Wheeler also concurred in this request.

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While there was general agreement at the representatives' meeting the DIA representative noted that his acceptance of the estimate and para. 16 in particular, was subject to the approval of his superiors.

Mr. Smith hopes to receive clarification of the DIA position Wednesday afternoon.

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Executive Secretary, USIB

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